June 24–25, 1863.

– The Buck family entertained Gen.

– The Potomac River was used many times by both armies during the war.

– Blackford's Ford was visited twice by the armies.

– Intense fighting took place in and around the streets of Gettysburg.

– On June 29, 1863 Union troops marched through here on June 26–28, 1863.

– Most of the Union army, pursuing Gen. Hooker, crossed the Potomac here on June 29, 1863.

– On July 10, 1863 a large cavalry action took place here.

– Site of the Union army's left flank on Pipe Creek after the battle.

– Union soldiers who marched through here came to Hagerstown on June 27, 1863.

– Miserable muddy march to and from Gettysburg.

– Site of Union army's right flank on Pipe Creek after the battle.

– Union infantry passed by here on June 29, 1863, three weeks before the battle.

– A wing of the Union army marched through here on June 26–28, 1863.

– Union soldiers marched into this town, June 26–28, 1863.

– Union and Confederate troops marched together through here again — pursuing the Confederates.

– Union troops marched through here on July 27, 1863, en route to Gettysburg. On July 7, 1863 they passed through here on their way to Gettysburg.

– Confederate cavalry attack on June 19, 1863.

– Site of Union army's right flank on Pipe Creek after the battle.

– Union troops marched through here on June 28, 1863.

– Miserable muddy march to and from Gettysburg.

– Home of Maryland's first governor. The Union army occupied the house during the war.

– On June 24, 1863 Confederate cavalry hatched an plot to attack the Union army from here. The plan was discovered before it could be executed.

– The Buck family entertained Gen. Hooker here on June 24, 1863.

– Clear Spring was visited twice by the armies.

– Pen Mar Park was the site of a large rearguard action on July 4, 1863.

– On June 21, 1863 Confederate cavalry used this area for rearguard action.

– A Union supply depot and home of the Catholic Daughters of Charity, who helped tend to wounded soldiers.

– Taking the Mason and Dixon Line to way for the Confederate advance into Pennsylvania.

– Site of the Union army's left flank on Pipe Creek after the battle.

– Union troops marched through here on June 26–28, 1863.

– A Union supply depot and home of the Catholic Daughters of Charity, who helped tend to wounded soldiers.

– Montgomery County battle.

– On June 29, 1863 Confederate cavalry hatched an plot to attack the Union army from here. The plan was discovered before it could be executed.

– The Buck family entertained Gen. Hooker here on June 24, 1863.

– Clear Spring was visited twice by the armies.

– Pen Mar Park was the site of a large rearguard action on July 4, 1863.

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– A Union supply depot and home of the Catholic Daughters of Charity, who helped tend to wounded soldiers.

– Taking the Mason and Dixon Line to way for the Confederate advance into Pennsylvania.
The Confederates splashed northward across the Potomac River at Blackburn Ford and at Woodbridge, then marched through Western Maryland towns like Hagerstown and Swift Creek. The bulk of the 75,000 Confederates had entered Pennsylvania by June 25. Meanwhile, the U.S. Army searched desperately for the Confederates. The Blue Ridge Mountains effectively screened Lee’s movements. The Union searched northward along the east side of the mountain range. The Confederates were on the eastern side.

Finally, on June 18, the Union began crossing the Potomac at Edwards Ferry to confront, at Frederick, Maryland. Then they moved north toward Emmitsburg and east into Carroll County on a dual mission to confront the invaders and protect Baltimore and Washington, D.C., along the “Pipe Creek Line.”

Lee had separated from Lee and led a cavalry raid to capture desperately needed resources. He moved east of the main Union Army and raised 123 wagons and 486 prisoners near Round Hill. But his route through central Maryland deprived Lee of his army’s “eyes and ears” during the crucial three days.

The advancing Confederate Army of Northern Virginia met and clashed with the Army of the Potomac at the crossroads town of Gettysburg, just above the Pennsylvania line, on July 1. Troops were unprepared for the ferocity and strength of the Union forces under the command of Maj. Gen. George Meade. By the third day of fighting, Lee ordered an attack by fewer than 15,000 troops on the Union army at Cemetery Ridge. The assault, known as “Pickett’s Charge,” to pierce the Union lines but eventually failed.

Suffering thousands of Confederate casualties, Lee still hoped to withstand his battered army on July 4 and retreat toward Virginia. A bloody Potomac River posed an immediate escape, and for nearly one month, the pursuing Union army tried to block Lee’s retreat at Williamsport and Falling Waters. The Gettysburg Campaign ended on July 12 when Lee finally crossed the river.

### SIGNALING

Communications were extremely important in wartime, both in signaling new strategies and in keeping track of the movements of the enemy. For Lincoln, signaling became key to his friendship with the Union, and capturing precious while securing victory.

In the heat of battle, Union communication officers, especially signal flags, gave the semblance of authority to the officer’s directions. Civil War soldiers, on the other hand, would be more likely to obey orders that were personally delivered to them.

### INVASED AGAIN

During the Civil War, Marylanders struggled to maintain normalcy, considering the obligation to both the United States and the Confederacy. The U.S. Signal Corps, established in 1861, was one of the first corps of officers and men whose sole mission was communication. Maj. Albert J. Myer, who had developed a flag signaling system called “wigwagging,” commanded the corps. At night, torches were used instead of flags. Either method could be used by the Confederates and Union signal stations.

### LONG MARCHES

A yow drive this tour is your climate-controlled vehicle, compared to the Civil War infant soldiers who traveled on foot and were exposed to the elements. Maj. Gen. George Meade’s Army of the Potomac, numbering 128,000 and 5,000 men, included corps carrying food and ammunition, and could stretch out along miles of road.

During the Gettysburg Campaign, however, soldiers sometimes marched for days and miles without proper food. As a result, some soldiers died because they were too hungry to fight.

### MEDICINE

During the War Between the States, medicine was primitive and doctors were few. Instead, army doctors operated on the battlefield and in camps and relied almost entirely on the skills of the medical corps.

When soldiers were shot or injured, they were treated by doctors and corpsmen. The doctors performed amputations, corrected wounds, and treated battle injuries. They also treated diseases such as dysentery and typhoid fever.

### WHERE’S STUART?

As the Army of Northern Virginia invaded Northern Maryland in June 1863, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee realized he had to protect his right flank, avoid getting cut off by the Union, and capture precious while securing victory.

Lee detached Stuart’s cavalry corps to screen the Confederate army. Many advances were made in military communications during the Civil War, but one of the most significant was the development of the telegraph. The telegraph allowed soldiers to communicate with each other quickly and efficiently.

### TRAVEL RESOURCES

For more information on the Civil War, recreated history events, and links to Civil War museums, visit the Maryland Civil War Trails website.

For additional Civil War Trails information, visit visitmaryland.org. For Civil War Trails information, visit CivilWarMed.org.